

PROPOSED SEWER BYLAW ARTICLE

ARTICLE 20. To see if the Town will vote to Amend its General Bylaws by adding a new Section ____ as follows:

Sewer Connection Bylaw

1. Connections:

a. Property owners who are eligible for a sewer connection are required to connect to the Town's sewer system any buildings on their property that are presently served by a private septic system. Such connection must be made within eighteen (18) months from either the effective date of this bylaw or the date that the Town's sewer service is fully constructed and becomes available to said property, whichever is later. Such connection shall be in full accordance with all regulations and policies of the Town's Sewer Commissioners. If the property is sold during this period, connection must be completed as a condition of the sale.

2. Enforcement:

a. Failure to comply with the requirements of this bylaw shall be punishable by a fine of ten (\$10.00) dollars per day, for each day of non-compliance. Such fines may be imposed by the Sewer Commissioners or an agent thereof, by way of the non-criminal disposition pursuant to G. L. c. 40, § 21D. Enforcement may also be obtained by way of injunctive relief in a court of competent jurisdiction.

3. Exemptions:

a. In the event that a property owner has a pre-existing complying septic system which was installed within fifteen (15) years prior to the effective date of this bylaw, such property owner shall not be required to connect to the sewer system for a period of fifteen (15) years from the septic system's installation date (subject further to the provisions of Section 1(a) hereof). On the expiration of such fifteen-year period, or in the event that the property is sold or otherwise transferred prior thereto, or on the failure of said system under Title V, whichever comes first, the owner or occupant will be required to connect to the town sewer system.

b. In the event that genuine financial hardship precludes a property owner from connecting to the sewer system, said property owner may apply to the Sewer Commissioners for an extension of time to connect to the sewer system, such extension to be for not more than three (3) years. It shall be the property owner's burden to demonstrate such hardship and the granting of an exemption shall be at the sole discretion of the Sewer Commissioners. Said extension shall be allowed only one time.

4. Regulations:

a. The Sewer Commissioners may adopt regulations for the implementation of this Bylaw.